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SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [EI](#)
SUBJECT: IRISH VIEWS OF THE SEPTEMBER 5-6 FOREIGN MINISTERS
MEETING (GYMNICH)

REF: A. STATE 93272
[1](#)B. STATE 93264

Classified By: Pol/Econ Section Chief Ted Pierce;
Reasons 1.4 (B) and (D).

[1](#)1. (U) POLOFF delivered reftel demarches on September 4 to
Pat Kelly, European Correspondent, Department of Foreign
Affairs.

Georgia

[1](#)2. (C) Ireland supports a firm response to the situation in
Georgia within an EU context, Kelly said. He predicted that
the GYMNICH discussion -- following on the heels of the
European Council meeting on September 1 and occurring before
President Sarkozy's visit to Moscow early next week -- would
largely entail stocktaking and an exchange of ideas on how to
implement the six-point plan.

Middle East Peace Process

[1](#)3. (C) Kelly said that the Middle East discussion would
likely focus on information-sharing and the role the EU could
play if an agreement were to be implemented. The Irish view,
he added, was that the likelihood of reaching an agreement by
the end of the year was diminishing.

EU Security Strategy

[1](#)4. (C) Noting that the review of the EU security strategy
was an initiative of the French Presidency, Kelly said that
the Irish feel the existing strategy has served the EU -- and
Ireland -- well. While saying that there was a need to adapt
the strategy to new circumstances and threats, he indicated
that the Irish wouldn't be looking for significant changes.

Afghanistan/Pakistan

[1](#)5. (C) The Irish support EU engagement in Afghanistan and
Pakistan, recognizing the serious terrorist threat that
emanates from the region, Kelly said. (Note: The Irish have
contributed seven troops to the Afghanistan theater of
operations through the NATO Partnership for Peace program.
End note.) He indicated that the GYMNICH discussion of
Afghanistan/Pakistan would be undertaken in the context of
the transatlantic relations review.
FAUCHER